

**City of Harrington  
MINUTES  
City Council Workshop  
June 9, 2015**

**Public Comments**

There were no Public Comments.

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A workshop with the Harrington City Council was held at Harrington City Hall, 106 Dorman Street, on June 9, 2015 and was attended by the following: Mayor Anthony R. Moyer; Vice Mayor Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Fonda Coleman; Council Member Eric Marquis; Council Member Amy Minner; Council Member Charles W. Porter; Council Member Kenneth W. Stubbs; Norman Barlow, Chief of Police; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; Dean Gary, Accountant; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also present: Cheryl Lahman and Jennifer Antonik.

Mayor Moyer called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

**Budget**

The City Manager stated that healthcare costs will go down starting in September.

Discussion occurred regarding a one-time gift to the Harrington Fire Company of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) that would be in addition to the three thousand dollars (\$3,000) that is part of the annual contract with the Fire Company.

The City Manager stated that the backhoe was removed from the Capital Improvement Budget based on feedback received.

The City Manager stated that the Council needs to decide on the cost of the manufactured home license. Mayor Moyer stated that he is concerned about raising the amount paid by those on a fixed income and asked if a sticker could be issued when the taxes are paid instead. The City Manager stated that is possible. Council Member Porter asked if the due date for the license would be the same as it is for taxes.

Council Member Porter suggested starting the fee at two hundred twenty-five dollars (\$225) and adjusting it next year if necessary.

Vice Mayor Bivans asked about the role of mobile home park owners. The City Manager stated that the land owner pays taxes on the land only; the mobile home park owner will now be responsible for informing the City of whom owns the mobile home and can be fined for failing to do so.

Council Member Porter stated that the people that live in the rest of the City pay taxes, so the people in the mobile home parks should pay their fair share too. The City Manager stated that all receive the same City services.

Council Member Porter stated that the CIP should be presented separately than the budget to avoid confusion.

Discussion occurred regarding the accounting of escrowed planning fees.

Vice Mayor Bivans asked why salary increases are being offered when they were given in January. The City Manager stated that increases were not given with the budget last year, and the Council asked to look at them in January. Vice Mayor Bivans stated that with the rise in healthcare costs, he would rather see that offset rather than salary increases. Council Member Porter stated that the pay scale steps are to keep good employees; some years raises were not given at all; the City Council voted to approve pay scales with step increases to be fair.

Council Member Minner asked if employee reviews are done every year. The City Manager replied yes. Vice Mayor Bivans asked if raises are based on performance. The City Manager replied no.

Council Member Coleman stated that the City Council already discussed and agreed to implement steps for salaries. Council Member Porter stated that the budget is balanced with the salary increases, and it is fair to give them.

Council Member Coleman left the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Council Member Minner asked about the debt refinance package. The City Manager stated that DNREC is working on it.

Council Member Minner stated that the City Hall renovations can be done by volunteers on the weekend.

Vice Mayor Bivans stated that he would like a table configuration for the City Council to face the audience. Council Member Minner stated that the tables suggested in the CIP are not professional looking.

### **Public Comments**

There were no Public Comments.

### **City Council Comments**

Vice Mayor Bivans asked about taking a group photo of the Council Members. The Clerk of Council stated that one will be taken when everyone is in attendance.

There being no further business, the City Council Workshop adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Blanchies  
Clerk of Council